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THE VERESTCHAGIN SALE

THE total yield of the pictures at the Verestchagin auction justified the belief of those who held in advance that the sale would not be a financial success. The result is not to be laid to lack of merit in the pictures themselves, but to the unwieldy size of many and to the absence of special interest in a number of the less cumbersome works. As I have repeatedly said in these columns, the value of the collection as a whole collection was far superior to that of its component parts if they were separated. The largest canvas of the lot went to a New Haven shopkeeper of unsavory memory, who will doubtless make it a show-card for his shop. The highest price was \$7,500, bid by Verestchagin's attorney, Mr. MacDona, for the "Crucifixion by the Romans." It was said to have been purchased by Mr. MacDona on an order from Mr. Peter Alexandroff, through Matthias Rohde of Hamburg, and to be intended for some Russian church. The worship of that church will not be rendered any more cheerful by the influence of such an altar-piece. The entire return for the 110 pictures was less than \$75,000, a figure which may be truly said not to represent their first cost to the artist, with no allowance for the expenses of the sale. The following is a list of the paintings sold, with the names of the purchasers and the prices paid. The numbers refer to Verestchagin's catalogue:

1. "The Tomb of Abraham," J. M. Bonham.....	\$140	73. "Family Vault".....	\$100
2. "Bethel," C. T. Olney.....	85	74. "Portico of a Church," E. M. Colie.....	415
3. "The Dead Sea," S. H. Kauffmann.....	120	75. "Portico of a Church," S. H. Paine.....	410
4. "Jacob's Well," P. H. McMahon.....	100	76. "Before Sunrise," Mr. Martin.....	500
5. "The Tomb of Joseph".....	70	77. "After Sunset," C. A. Griscom, Jr.....	400
6. "Gilgal," E. M. Cohn.....	65	78. "The Night," H. F. Mac Dona.....	370
7. "Samuel's Tomb," C. T. Olney.....	45	79. "Mount Chattin," A. E. Olarowsky.....	45
8. "Gideon's Spring," J. H. Burnham.....	55	80. "Hermits on the Jordan," William Brough.....	85
9. "The Valley of Ezdraelon".....	55	81. "Portrait of a Hermit," J. M. Bonham.....	190
10. "The Cave Endor," C. T. Olney.....	40	82. "A Russian Hermit," H. Dutton.....	190
11. "Beisan," P. H. McMahon.....	60	83. "His Lodging," C. T. Olney.....	35
12. "Beisan Theatre," J. H. Burnham.....	45	84. "Portrait of a Jewish Rabbi," H. F. Mac Dona.....	500
13. "Solomon's Wall," William Demuth.....	3,000	85. "A Rabbi," J. W. Brown.....	155
14. "Business and Prayers".....	125	86. "A Rabbi," S. Peiser.....	140
15. "The Spring of Elisha".....	60	87. "Portrait of an Arab," E. Witmore.....	160
16. "Ruins of Temple at Schechem".....	75	88. "In Bulgaria During the War," Shipkoff & Co.....	185
17. "Old Street in Samaria".....	50	89. "In Bulgaria After the War," W. Scott.....	115
18. "Entrance to Tombs of Kings," Mr. Martin.....	900	90. "Cossack Picket on the Danube," Samuel Untermyer.....	510
19. "Tombs of the Kings," William Demuth.....	750	91. "The Earth Huts at Shipka," H. T. Chapman, Jr.....	505
20. "Fountain near Nazareth".....	45	92. "Snow Trenches on the Pass".....	600
21. "Jordan, where Christ was Baptized".....	65	93. "All Quiet at Shipka" (3 pieces), L. Wiel.....	1,005
22. "Capernaum," C. T. Olney.....	55	94. "Solomon's Wall," H. T. Chapman, Jr.....	2,500
23. "Bethsaida".....	55	95. "The Pearl Mosque in Agra," Mr. Wilson.....	1,500
24. "Mount Tabor".....	45	96. "Dressing the Wounded," S. Ullman.....	705
25. "Summit of Mount Tabor," J. H. Burnham.....	35	97. "The Spy," S. Ullman.....	605
26. "Entrance to Grotto".....	195	98. "The Adjutant," G. R. White.....	410
27. "Mount of Temptation by Night," P. H. McMahon.....	40	99. "The Road of the War Prisoners," Mr. Martin.....	550
28. "Kitchen of the Monks," C. H. Ward.....	70	100. "A Resting Place of Prisoners," J. B. Randolph.....	750
29. "Refectory of the Grotto," L. Malloy.....	290	101. "The Window of Selim-Shisti's Monument," H. F. Mac Dona.....	2,200
30. "Part of the Grotto," Mr. Martin.....	190	102. "Skobeleff at Shipka," S. Ullman.....	1,400
31. "Cupola of the Holy Sepulchre," H. Dutton.....	35	103. "Turkish Hospital at Plevna," S. Ullman.....	410
32. "Jewish Tomb," J. W. Brown.....	110	104. "The Kreml," C. Lambert.....	2,500
33. "Arab Woman," J. H. Burnham.....	65	105. "Crucifixion by the Romans," H. F. Mac Dona.....	7,500
34. "Court of a House," L. Malloy.....	290	106. "Blowing from the Guns in India," H. T. Chapman, Jr.....	4,500
35. "The Holy Family," Mr. Martin.....	1,300	107. "Hanging in Russia," P. M. Grinwald.....	1,550
36. "Jesus with John the Baptist," Mr. Martin.....	700	108. "Private Mosque of the Great Moguls".....	2,100
37. "Jesus in the Desert," Mr. Martin.....	1,100	109. "The Forgotten Soldier".....	2,100
38. "Christ on the Sea of Tiberias," G. W. Elkins.....	1,025	110. "The Future Emperor of India," Edward Malley.....	4,125
39. "Prophecy," Mr. Martin.....	1,150		
40. "House of Berbul in Futtehpore," Hicks Arnold.....	1,950		
41. "Mosque in Futtehpore," Hicks Arnold.....	2,250		
42. "Pearl Mosque in Agra," Hicks Arnold.....	2,200		
43. "Sunrise in the Himalayas," J. W. Irving.....	850		
44. "The Same," W. Pell.....	85		
45. "The Taj in the Morning," Mr. Martin.....	875		
46. "The Taj in the Evening," Mr. Martin.....	850		
47. "The Taj in the Evening," A. L. Barber.....	1,000		
48. "Mount Kanchinjanga," J. W. Brown.....	150		
49. "Thibetan Lamas," P. H. McMahon.....	225		
50. "Hindu Workman," A. H. Obrig.....	105		
51. "Bhutanese of Sikkhim," H. Dutton.....	160		
52. "Bhutanese Girl," W. M. Conneff.....	70		
53. "Bhutanese Woman," H. Dutton.....	70		
54. "Mount Kachinjanga," J. W. Irving.....	650		
55. "Sunset in India," T. C. Olney.....	60		
56. "The Gate of Allah-Uddinn," J. W. Irving.....	2,100		
57. "Blacksmith," H. Dutton.....	130		
58. "His Wife," H. Dutton.....	125		
59. "Coppersmith," J. H. Burnham.....	115		
60. "Girl of district near Mosko," Prof. E. W. Bass.....	400		
61. "Dvornick," H. F. Mac Dona.....	120		
62. "Retired Valet de Chambre," H. F. Mac Dona.....	150		
63. "Mendicant Friar," H. F. Mac Dona.....	350		
64. "The Kreml of Moscow," J. W. Brown.....	155		
65. "The Kreml of Moscow," W. Scott.....	195		
66. "The Moscow Cathedrals," J. M. Bonham.....	315		
66a. "The Moscow Cathedrals," S. Cunningham.....	280		
67. "A Street in Rostov," Prof. E. W. Bass.....	530		
68. "Church in the village of Ishna," S. H. Paine.....	200		
69. "Interior of same church," G. R. White.....	380		
70. "Entrance door of the church," W. F. Suydam.....	125		
71. "Ancient Terems of Rostov," S. Weinhandtler.....	210		
72. "Entrance to Ipatief Cathedral, Kostroma," W. F. Suydam.....	185		

Counterfeiters do not find it profitable to ply their vocation in the postal service, for, according to an official of the Postoffice Department who has been in the service for over twenty years, there has been no counterfeiting of United States stamps during that period.

At the British Museum there is being gathered together a stupendous collection of newspapers. A year's additions include 2,472 sets of newspapers published in the United Kingdom, comprising 170,838 single numbers; 647 of these newspapers were published in London and its suburbs, 1,420 in other parts of England and Wales and the Channel Islands, 232 in Scotland and 173 in Ireland.

"I frequently have rare coins given me," said Broadway car conductor, "and not three days ago an old gentleman handed me a cent of 1802. He kept holding out his hand for change and I handed him back the penny. 'Good Lord!' he exclaimed; 'I thought I gave you a quarter. That's my pocket-piece. I've carried it for over fifty years. Dear me, that was a narrow escape!' He chuckled all the way down town."

The Department of Archeology of the Brooklyn Institute is one of the largest and most interesting of the numerous scientific bodies in the institution. It is presided over by Prof. Charles E. West, LL.D., who has just received the degree of Doctor of Pedagogy, he being the first American upon whom it has ever been conferred by the Regents of the State of New York. The venerable professor, who is 82 years of age, and one of the oldest teachers in the country, though one of the youngest in his zeal in science and literature, recently visited the office of the Brooklyn Institute and proposed to form a section of the department over which he presides for the study and collection of coins, medals, gems and other similar works of art. To this end he brought about a meeting at his house of collectors of numismatics, and a draft for the organization of the society is now in preparation.